

Foster Care Month

By Rep. Dave Considine (D-Baraboo)



Dave Considine represents the 81st District in the State Assembly. The 81st District includes Baraboo, Sauk City, Prairie du Sac, Portage, and many other communities. His office can be reached at (608) 266-7746 or via Rep.Considine@legis.wisconsin.gov

May is national foster care awareness month. Across Wisconsin there are nearly 7,000 children and youth in the foster care system. This month can be used as a time to support them and the thousands of foster families, mentors, and child welfare professionals who help them find a permanent home.

I spent years supporting Wisconsin's youth as an educator and understand the devastating impact that losing a permanent home can have on a child. Between 2012 and 2018 the number of children in Wisconsin's foster system increased by 28.5 percent. This has led to a system that is stretched too thin on its current budget, leading to even more difficulties for these already at-risk youth.

That is why I am glad to support Governor Tony Evers' 2021-23 Biennial Budget which invests heavily in the education of all children and expands support for the nearly 7,000 children in the foster system in Wisconsin.

This budget invests millions to ensuring that every child in Wisconsin has access to education, regardless of their family status or economic standing. The budget also increases assistance to foster families. The current rate of assistance only covers 35 percent of the cost of raising a child in Wisconsin. This makes it even more difficult to find homes for the rapidly increasing number of children in the foster system.

I am glad to support a budget aimed at supporting some of the most vulnerable children in our state. I am excited to use this upcoming month and every month to advocate for the needs of children and especially those without a permanent home. If you're interested in learning more about the budget, [click here](#). If you are interested in further supporting foster children in Wisconsin visit the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families website [here](#).